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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 834
By Person

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Mary Sue Turner on her receipt of the 2002 Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable educator is Mary Sue Turner, who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2002, she was honored with the Shelby County Schools Department of Instruction's highest award, the Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching, at the Shelby County Education Association's Spring Banquet; and

WHEREAS, Mary Sue Turner has served with distinction as a classroom teacher at Riverdale Elementary School for twenty years; the 2002 Memorial Award for Excellence is an honor most befitting her exemplary tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

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WHEREAS, each year, Mrs. Turner works diligently to meet the needs of all the students in her first grade class, and often volunteers her time after school to tutor students who require additional help; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Turner always encourages her students to do their best and give their best; her evident joy in working with children has produced enthusiasm for learning among the students in her classroom; and

WHEREAS, through her extraordinary efforts, remarkable spirit, and skill as an educator, Mary Sue Turner forms an indelible bond with her students and their parents; her young students fondly remember how much fun they had learning in Mrs. Turner's first grade class; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated teacher, she has achieved perfect attendance during her twenty years at Riverdale Elementary School and is always willing to broaden her horizons by attending teaching workshops; and

WHEREAS, Mary Sue Turner is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Turner is constantly incorporating new ideas into her lessons to capture and hold her students' interest; and

WHEREAS, possessing an energetic, caring, and unselfish attitude, she is always willing to lend a helping hand to the students, faculty, parents, and administrators of Riverdale Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Mary Sue Turner truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel is highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Turner exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, she is a devoted wife to her husband, Judge Kenneth Turner, who astutely serves as the Juvenile Court Judge for Memphis and Shelby County, and is a loving mother to their daughter and son-in-law, Joy Turner Maness and Jerry Maness; and

WHEREAS, Mary Sue Turner exemplifies the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and congratulate Mary Sue Turner on her receipt of the 2002 Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching, commend her exceptional service to the young people of Memphis and Shelby County, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and extend to her our best wishes for every continued success and happiness in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.